

## Rabbi's Column

# The Choreography of Prayer

Why do we do things the way we do? Why do we light two candles on Friday night? Why two and not one or three? Why Friday and not Thursday or Sunday? And what is this custom of making mysterious swimming motions through the air before saying the blessing?

We do things as we do them for a variety of reasons: because it is a *mitzvah*, a historically and religiously validated Jewish practice, because this is what our people have always done, because this is how we were taught, because we find the religious action meaningful. Most of the time, we observe a traditional practice or custom out of some combination of these various and legitimate motives. In addition to the values and stories, prayers and texts which are part of the rich fabric of our tradition, Jewish life is filled with physical gestures and movements—from raising our hands to bending our knees—which accompany the performance of religious actions.

For many of us, our understanding of these “in moves” is incomplete. For the majority of our members who did not grow up in an observant Jewish home, many practices and customs have been absorbed or observed only as adults at Sha’ar Zahav. People often only have a fragmentary understanding of the ori-

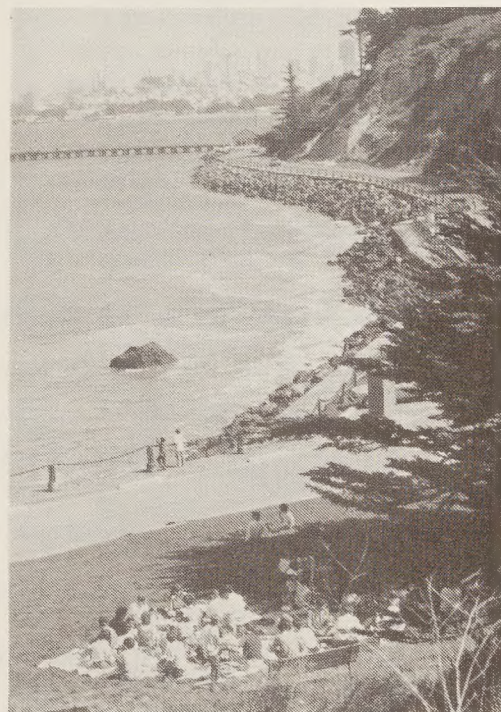
gin and meaning of particular practices. Sometimes we would like to include or heighten our own observance but are not sure exactly what to do and are afraid of embarrassment if we make a mistake. I have also observed that some gestures which are created on the spur of the moment to meet the needs of a special circumstance one Shabbat return in successive weeks until they become an “official” tradition.

Of course, this is not a new phenomenon. The basic Ashkenazi musical modes most of us are familiar with in our liturgy have been traced by musicologists to their origins in Europe over the last several hundred years. Nonetheless, these melodies are collectively known as *mi-Sinai* tunes—music which is as old as the Torah itself, since the melodies were revealed at Mt. Sinai!

It is not necessary for each one of us to do exactly the same thing at the same time—some rituals which are meaningful for me will never speak to you, and vice-versa. I am a person who enjoys outward reminders of internal spiritual movement; other people find them distracting or spiritually uninteresting. However, we cannot evaluate their possible worth and appreciate their place in the symbolic world of Judaism if we do not first learn about their origin and meaning.

Earlier generations of Reform Jews set aside or modified much of the choreography of Jewish religious life. In recent years, the Reform movement as a whole has moved to recover many aspects of the Jewish tradition which had been set aside earlier as “unspiritual” or “anachronistic.” At Sha’ar Zahav, blessed as we are by people from diverse Jewish backgrounds, we have always been open to a wide variety of styles of worship. However, one consequence has been uncomfortableness for new or newly returning Jews who want to “do the right thing” but are never quite sure what it is. The answer, as you can prob-

Continued on page 6



Tashlich service picnic 5751 at Fort Point.

PHOTO BY MICHAEL BETTINGER

## Plans Underway for 12th International Conference

Memorial Day weekend of 1991 should bring nearly 500 gay and lesbian Jews from around the world to San Francisco. That's the weekend of the 12th International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews, hosted by Sha'ar Zahav and the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations. Nearly all conference activities will be held at the Golden Gateway Holiday Inn at Van Ness Avenue and California Street in San Francisco.

The weekend will open with Shabbat evening services on May 24, with an oneg to follow. Both the service and the oneg will be at Congregation Sherith Israel on California and Webster streets.

For the rest of the weekend, we are planning Shabbat morning services, several workshops, a Saturday evening dinner dance, a presentation on gay and lesbian life in Israel, a boat tour on the bay, a gay and lesbian music and comedy night, a Jewish cultural exhibit, and much more.

Continued on page 6

## Xmas Already?

It's not too early to start making your December holiday plans. This Christmas Day and Christmas Eve, members and friends of Sha'ar Zahav will once again cook and deliver meals for Project Open Hand. In past years, this has proven an extremely rewarding experience for all who participated. It's a wonderful way to be Jewish at Christmas, while performing a much-appreciated mitzvah.

Mark your calendars now and watch for the sign-up form to be included in next month's *Forward*.



### Wonderful Tenants seek Excellent Landlord

Two responsible, professional couples seek to rent a duplex in the Berkeley Hills or thereabouts. Must be safe and quiet. *Alternatively*, each couple seeks a separate two-bedroom house or flat for up to \$1,000/month.

Call Andrew at work, 408/974-4368.

## Naches

Scott Mezistrano on his recent designation by the American Payroll Association as a certified payroll professional and on his promotion to the position of payroll manager of his company.

And again to Scott on his purchase of a new red Acura.

To Lisa Katz on her new job with the San Francisco Public Defender's Office.

To Susan Gelmis on the purchase of her new Toyota Corolla.



BEAT THE CROWD!!

## UAHC CAMP SWIG

Saratoga, California

is ready to go for 1991!!

### ENROLL BEFORE November 30

and receive these benefits:

- A \$100 deposit guarantees a reservation (\$200 is required after November 30.)
- No second payment until March 8, 1991.
- Receive a free Camp Swig gift!

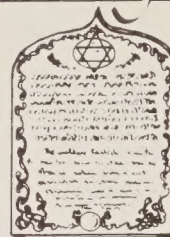
1991 Brochures are available in the temple office or from

**UAHC Camp Swig**  
703 Market St. Suite 1300  
San Francisco, CA 94103  
(415) 392-7080

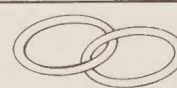
**DONT MISS THE CAMP SWIG  
RUACH OF 1991**



## Calligraphy



## Ketubot Invitations



## Modern Traditional Illustration



Robin Hall Rich Sigberman  
415-668-8832

*The Jewish Gaily Forward* is published 11 times annually by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, (415) 861-6932. Permission to reproduce material is freely given, and credit would be appreciated.

Members of the Congregation receive the *Forward*. For a donation of \$12/year, non-members will receive the *Forward*.

All newsletter copy should be typed, double-spaced and is due no later than the date of the Va'ad meeting. It should be sent to the synagogue office, marked to the attention of the *Forward*. All material is subject to editing; material will not be returned.

Members of the Newsletter Committee are Howard Blechman, chair, Leonard Brill, Alita Rosenfeld, Lane Schickler and Robin Leonard (general editorial and production), Michael Bettinger (photographer), Rick Wilson (advertising coordinator), Elliot Gordon, Frank Hyman, Alex Ingersoll, Sam Thal, Lin Turner, Eli Weinstein and Ron Wilmot (distribution). The *Forward* is typeset by David Lester, Mouse Type Inc., and printed by Lou Greene.

**Display Ads** are \$15 per column inch for non-members and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

**Classified Ads** are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked attention *Forward* advertising. The advertising deadline is the second Monday of the month. The *Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste.



## HIGHLANDS RESORT WINE COUNTRY

*Peaceful. Beautiful. Friendly*

CABINS • CAMPING • HOT TUB • POOL  
On Four Acres, Three Blocks to Main Street  
P.O. Box 346-G Guerneville, CA 95446 (707) 869-0333

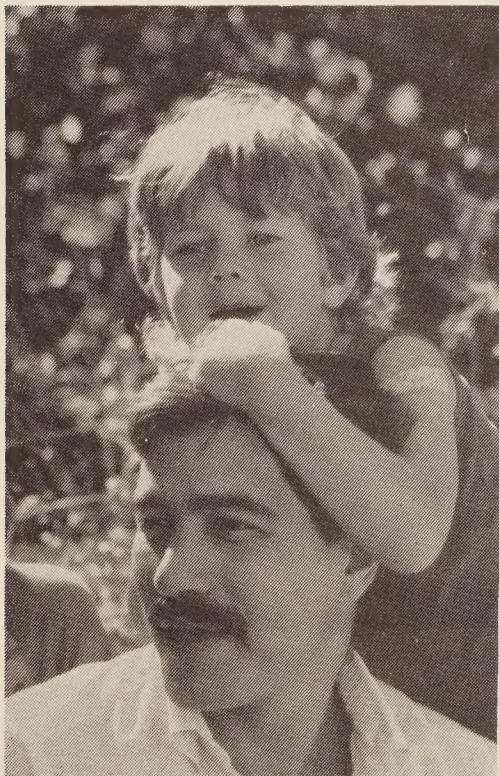
*Free Brochure*

## Signs and Changes

You may have noticed new kiddush signs in the oneg room. These were beautifully created by Francie McGowan, who donated all of the materials as well as her time doing the calligraphy. The clear, bold lettering of both the Hebrew and the English transliteration and the high placement of the signs over the kitchen pass-through make it easy for everyone to read the kiddush text. Francie phrased the text on the signs to match the phrasing of the chant so that even newcomers will have no problem singing along! The color of the frames contributes a needed accent to the oneg room and the plastic coating over the calligraphy ensures that these signs will last a long time in their original condition.

Many thanks to Francie for this wonderful contribution—one that will be appreciated weekly by every oneg-goer.

The Ritual Committee made an interesting change to the kiddush text. In keeping with Sha'ar Zahav's tradition of inclusiveness, the phrase "Ki vanu vacharta ve'otanu kidashta mikol ha'amim"—"You have chosen us and sanctified us from all other peoples"—was changed to "Ki vanu vacharta ve'otanu kidashta im kol ha'amim"—"You have chosen us and sanctified us with all other peoples."



Our rabbi, sporting a chapeau by Benjie Achtenberg, at Fort Point Tashlich service picnic. PHOTO BY MICHAEL BETTINGER

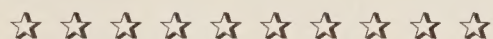
## Blood Drive Report

Some 30 women and one man were able to find time (and a good vein) on Saturday, September 22 to stop by the Irwin Memorial Blood Center to donate at the congregation's annual blood drive. The event was so successful that another drive around Passover is being considered.

Of course, one need not wait until then; donations to our account can be accepted at any of the following sites: Irwin headquarters or the Mills Building downtown San Francisco (567-6400); San Rafael (454-2700); Novato (897-3111 ext. 215); and Vallejo (643-2163). Call ahead for days and hours they are open. (Unfortunately the East Bay blood centers do not have an account system.) Members can draw on the credits in our account. Call the synagogue office for information.

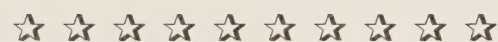
Many helping hands worked together to make the day an enjoyable one; of particular note, from the Women's Chavurah are: Ann Biderman, Laurie Davis, Susan Greenspan, Francie McGowan and Kate Sharp. Allan Berenstein and Lin Turner wound up "co-hosting" in the "schmooze room." Prez Merry and Veep Allan (among others) stopped by to lend support and tell a few stories. Special thanks to all the Betty Crockers and Galloping Gourmets who brought homemade muffins and cookies. There were a few first-time donors and many new faces that day. All in all, it was a privilege and a pleasure for me to coordinate, for my first time, a true community effort!

—Jonathan Goldman



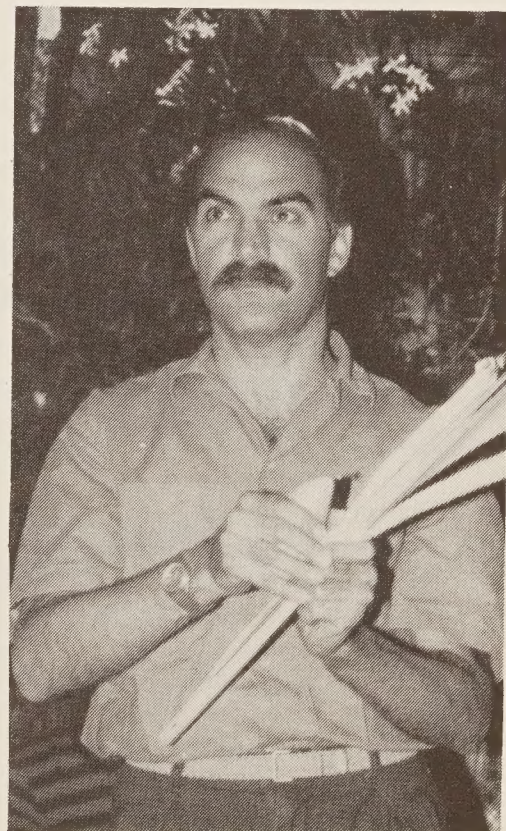
## Anniversaries

- 6 Mark Mendelow & Dennis Moribe
- 13 Pamela Ruskin & Suzanne E. Shimek
- 16 Marianne Camp & Ellen R. Gierson
- 19 Leslie Bergson & Nanci Stern
- 26 Marilyn Kalman & Marta Wohl
- 26 Amy Markowitz & Robert Wachter
- 27 Cindy Icke & Djane Sabin



## Birthdays

- 1 Steven M. Polsky
- 3 Robin Rosenbaum
- 3 Jordan Imani Hauer-Laurencin
- 5 Frank Masson
- 5 Sasha T.
- 6 Tanya Aviv Adler
- 7 Steven Greenberg
- 9 Neil Sechan
- 12 Mark Pressler
- 13 Bobby Harris
- 13 Zachary Miller
- 14 Jonathan Goldman
- 17 Asher Whittle Zucker
- 18 Joel Levine
- 20 Ali Cannon
- 22 John Everett Hanely
- 23 Randall Schiller
- 23 Arlene Hoffman
- 26 Allan Blumenfeld
- 26 Michael Harris
- 26 Cheri Pies
- 27 Laura Weil
- 28 Judith Schwartz
- 28 Alison Cohen
- 28 Beatrice Lieberman
- 29 Mark Vogel
- 29 Hal Podgur
- 29 Tahg Khorin Adler
- 30 Jeffrey Miller



Allan Gold, with lulav and etrog, at Sukkot services at his house in San Francisco. PHOTO BY MICHAEL BETTINGER

## Yahrzeits

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <p>1 Jennie Mantey, aunt of Bill Schlichter</p> <p>2 Carmen Schlichter, grandmother of Bill Schlichter</p> <p>2 (Heshvan 14) Cyril S. Roseman, friend of Sherie Ann Koshover</p> <p>2 (Heshvan 14) Hyman Richshafer, grandfather of Sherie Ann Koshover</p> <p>2 (Heshvan 14) Harvey Levine, member of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav</p> <p>2 Marc Wagner, friend of Johanna Johnson</p> <p>3 Hans Meyer, father of Eve Meyer</p> <p>4 William Mantey, grandfather of Bill Schlichter</p> <p>4 Isidor Paker, father of Perry Paker</p> <p>5 (Heshvan 17) Hermina Tick, grandmother of Sandra Blair</p> <p>6 (Heshvan 18) George Israel Moskowitz, father of Ron Moskowitz</p> <p>6 Irene Sherwin, grandmother of Rob Tat</p> <p>6 (Heshvan 18) Harry Berenstein, father of Allan Berenstein</p> <p>6 Rosalyn Shefrin Greenwald, mother of Susan Greenwald</p> <p>7 Anna Gold, grandmother of Allan Gold</p> <p>7 Pearl Taitelbaum, grandmother of Yael Silverberg-Willis</p> <p>8 Dina Raven, grandmother of Allyce Kimerling</p> <p>8 Helen Wolf, grandmother of Judith Mara Wolfe</p> <p>8 Charlie Martin Dobkins Sr., father of Jim Dobkins</p> <p>9 Joseph Goldstein, father of Bill Goldstein</p> <p>9 (Heshvan 21) Mary Goldman, grandmother of Jonathan Goldman</p> <p>9 Ruth Wishner, sister of David Shaber</p> <p>10 Donald Julian Krintzman, friend of Jerome Goldstein</p> <p>10 Herman Wohl, father of Marilyn Kalman's lover</p> <p>11 Estelle Harris, mother of Michael Harris</p> <p>11 Bruce Apter, member of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav</p> <p>13 Marion Zimmerman, aunt of Sue and Sonia Douglass</p> <p>15 Leah Saslafsky, grandmother of Sharyn Saslafsky</p> | <p>15 Leatrice Billig, friend of Robin Leonard</p> <p>17 Allan Kimerling, brother of Allyce Kimerling</p> <p>18 Mark Henry, lover of Donald Abrams</p> <p>18 (Kislev 1) Adam Honigstein, father of Devorah Honigstein</p> <p>20 (Kislev 3) Nathan Handman, grandfather of Jonathan Schwartz</p> <p>21 (Kislev 4) Morris Schwartz, father of Jonathan Schwartz</p> <p>22 Tristano Palermينو, member of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav</p> <p>23 Nathan Thal, brother of Sam Thal</p> <p>24 Jack Bonett, grandfather of Daniel Bonett</p> <p>24 Esther Kalis, mother of Betty Kalis</p> <p>24 Louis J. Nutes, grandfather of Barry Siegel</p> <p>25 (Kislev 8) Estelle Weisman, mother of Mark Weisman</p> <p>25 Anna Hart, grandmother of Neil Hart</p> <p>26 Steven A. Gelmis, grandfather of Susan Gelmis</p> | <p>27 (Kislev 10) Lottie Goldinger, grandmother of Neil Hart</p> <p>28 (Kislev 11) Frank Chesir, father of Daniel Chesir</p> <p>28 Alvin Baum Sr., father of Alvin Baum Jr.</p> <p>30 (Kislev 13) Abraham Dunn, father of Eileen Dunn</p> <p>30 Herman Rothgeisser, father of Tom Rothgeisser</p> <p>30 (Kislev 13) Ben Rudman, uncle of Rick Crane</p> |
|---|---|---|

### Oneg Sponsors

During October onegs were sponsored by the following generous people:

- 5 Adam Harris, in memory of his father, William Herskovic
- 19 Steve Weitz, in memory of his mother, Eva Weitz
- 26 Randy Mayers and Caroline Isaacs

All you have to do to sponsor an oneg is to think of the occasion and contact the synagogue office (861-6932). The cost of sponsoring an oneg is \$50. You can also provide the food, flowers, etc. for a more personal touch.

## Legal help.

In contracts and leases,  
wills and powers of attorney,  
real estate, business law and litigation.

## Goldstein & Gellman

A T T O R N E Y S A T L A W



Call David Gellman  
415/621-2966

1540 Market Street, Suite 490, San Francisco, CA 94102

## —High Holidays Thank-You's—

**O**ur High Holiday services were especially beautiful this year. The new ticket system allowed us to enjoy the services in a spirit of relaxation and peace. None of this would have been possible without the hard work and dedication of many people. To the many volunteers whose names follow, thank you for your loving efforts.

**Service Leaders and Gabbais** (includes Sukkot and Simchat Torah): Nancy-Carol Adler, Tiela Chalmers, Daniel Chesir, Jonathan Funk, Susan Gelmis, Rabbi Yoel Kahn, Eric Keitel, Frank Masson, Scott Mezistrano, Jose Luis Moscovich, Ora Prochovnick, Mike Rankin, Bill Schlichter, Kathy Simon, Nancy Snow, Susan Unger, Dana Vinicoff, Larry Wexler, Lina Zerbarini.

**Ba'alei K'riah** (Torah and Haftorah chanting): Bill Ashley-Dobbin, Daniel Chesir, Judith Linzer, Scott Mezistrano, Ora Prochovnick, Ben Schalit, Judy Schwartz, Kathy Simon, Richard Sinkoff, Dana Vinicoff.

**Ba'alei T'kia** (Shofar sounding): Don Albert, Steve Cronenwalt, Rabbi Yoel Kahn, Ron Lezell, Bill Schlichter, Marion Trentman, Dana Vinicoff.

**Lay Sermonizers:** Susan Sobel-Feldman, Lori Ubell, Larry Wexler.

**High Holiday Pitches:** Tiela Chalmers, Nancy Meyer, Mike Rankin, Steve Unger.

**Ensemble:** Dana Vinicoff (director), Phil Charney (accompanist), Leslie Bergson, Jazz Duberman, Steve Elman, Susan Gelmis, Joella Harlan, Debbie Jacobs-Levine, Ron Lezell, Jonathan Mesinger, Eve Meyer, Nancy Snow, Michelle Sullivan, Lin Turner, Steve Weitz.

**Ticket Administration:** Betty Kalis.

**Kol Nidre Ticket Table Volunteers:** Diane Hawk, Lisa Katz.

**Head Usher:** Jeff Rubin.

**Ushers:** Daniel Bonett, Rosalinda Del Moral, Steve Elman, Steve Gaynes, Jerry Geffner, Diane Hawk, Kirk Hinman, Lisa Katz, Marc Mencher, Lane Schickler, Ruth Schoenbach, Susan Stahl, Peter Vishniac, Sylvia Weisenberg, Lina Zerbarini. Extra special thanks to: Beverly Hewitt, Eric Kamm, Nathan Robinson, Joshua Schectel.

**Overflow Room Monitors:** Nancy-Carol Adler, Allison Cohen, Ann Daniels, Marion Quantz, Edward Schultz, Jonathan Zingman.

**Oneg Coordination:** Shirley Liberman.

**Oneg Volunteers:** Bill Ashley-Dobbin, Rena Frantz, Gail Frantz, Gail Friedlander, Stephen Howard, Ira Kaminski, George Lucas, Eve Meyer, Marilyn O'Keefe, Nathan Robinson, and special thanks to Judith Cohen and Lin Turner.

**Oneg Donation:** Walt Leiss.

**Children's Service Leaders:** Aaron Cooper and Eric Keitel.

**AIDS Food Bank Coordination:** Steve and Florence Nacamulli.

**Sound and Light Equipment:** Randy Schiller.

**Childcare Coordination:** Diana Buchbinder, Sue Douglass.

**Last-Minute Childcare Volunteers:** Mark Freeman, Lisa Katz, Suzie Kisber, Jane Levin, Bieta Lilly, Jacob Robinson.

**Sukkot Coordination:** Steve Elman.

**Sukkot Hospitality:** Sue Douglass, Allan Gold and Gary Glasser, Rabbi Yoel Kahn and Dan Bellm.

**Sukkah Builders:** Gary Glasser, Allan Gold, Steve Elman, Tom Holt.

**Special Thanks:** Rabbi Yoel Kahn, for ongoing support, concern and assistance.

—Claudia Bernard  
and Scott Mezistrano,  
High Holiday Coordinators

## Sibling Notes

**Beth El Binah** (Dallas)—will be hosting the Southwest Regional Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews this December. They hope that gay and lesbian Jews from Texas, Oklahoma, Arizona, New Mexico and Southern California will gather for the World Congress' first Southwestern Regional Conference.

**Beth Simchat Torah** (New York)—headed to London in October to pick up a newly refurbished Holocaust scroll written in 1800. The congregation will welcome its new Torah with a ceremony on November 18.

**Chavurah of Orange County** (Laguna Beach)—is the newest Gay and Lesbian Jewish organization to join the World Congress. Welcome!

**Jewish Gay and Lesbian Group** (London)—celebrated Shabbat on October 26 with members of Beth Simchat Torah (New York).

**Yachad** (South Africa)—mourned the death of Arthur Morris, its founder, past secretary (for five years) and past chair (for two years). Our deepest condolences go out to members of Yachad and to Arthur's family and friends.

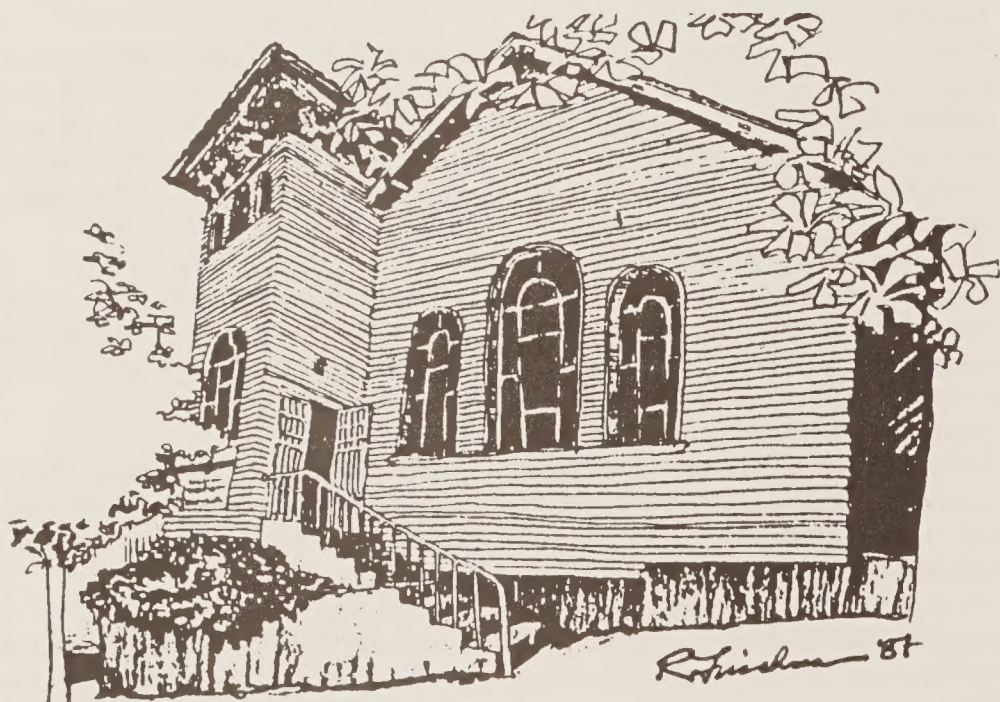


*Pre-erev Rosh Hashanah hubbub in the Unitarian Church Sanctuary.*

PHOTO BY MICHAEL BETTINGER

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

# Gift Shop



We have candles  
and all your other Chanukah needs.

Order your books here also ...  
often at less-than-retail prices.

See the calendar for dates and hours open.

Join us for  
**Shabbat Dinner**  
at Sha'ar Zahav

Friday, November 30  
at 6:30 pm

\$11 for members  
\$18 for non-members  
\$5 for children

Limited seating

Reservations must be received  
by November 26

Call the synagogue office  
to make reservations and  
specify either fish or vegetarian

All meals kosher

## Rabbi's Column

(Continued from page 1)

ably guess, is that there is no "correct" way to light the candles, or stand during the Amida, or bow (or not bow) during the Aleinu. For each of these, though, there is a continuum of possibilities which reflect the communal values and customs of Jewish communities in different places and different times.

On Friday evening, November 9, I will speak on "the Choreography of Prayer." I will discuss the origins and symbolism of gesture and movement in the synagogue service, from candle lighting to Kaddish. I hope you will join me for this study-sermon and also bring your personal or family traditions to share with the congregation. If you have ideas for future topics (I'd be glad to make this Shabbat the first in a series) please give me your suggestions.

—Rabbi Yoel Kahn

## Conference

(Continued from page 1)

The conference committee will be calling on CSZ members to help out. Right now, we need help specifically in planning workshops, preparing the conference book, coordinating meals, working on publicity and many other tasks. In the coming months, we will be asking CSZ members to offer their homes to attendees needing home hospitality over the weekend. We will also ask members to host conference attendees at a home hospitality dinner on Sunday evening before the gay and lesbian music and comedy night.

For more information, or if you want to volunteer for a small or large task, call either conference co-chair, Robin Leonard (386-7876) or Marc Mencher (626-9592).



## How to Check Out a Library Book

As a service for our readers (and upon the urging of our library staff who have discreetly mentioned that many of those using the library do not follow the standard required method), the *Forward* hereby reproduces a CSZ library card and the procedure necessary to check out a book. If library users would adhere to this mandated method, the Persian Gulf crisis might not be solved, but it *would* make it easier for our library personnel. Thanks for your cooperation.

PH Mordecai M. <u>K</u> aplan		
AUTHOR Judaism as a Civilization		
TITLE		
DATE LOANED	BORROWER'S NAME	DUE
11/1/90	S. Z. Member	11/14/90

**Who can check out materials?**  
Sha'ar Zahav members and staff.

**What can they check out?**  
Any book or tape with a check-out card.

**When is it due back at the library?**  
Two weeks from check-out date.

**Check-Out Procedure**

- Select a book and remove check-out card.
- Fill in as shown above:
  - Write in check-out date;
  - Print your name;
  - Write in due date.
- File the card in the check-out file. Use the first letter in the author/editor's last name. (*The accompanying example card would be filed under "K."*) If there is no apparent author, use the title.

**Check-In Procedure**

- Find check-out card in check-out file.
- Replace card in book.
- Replace book on the shelf where you found it.

**Renewals**

- To renew the book, simply repeat the check-out procedure.

## Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions, of all sizes, to mark any event, and to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless requested otherwise.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in the past months by the following contributors:

### General Fund

**Don Albert**, in honor of the 50th anniversary of Gert and Henry Yam  
**Mantra Ben-Ya'akov**, in honor of Mike Rankin  
**Jonathan Funk & John Arnold**, in honor of Liona and Lou's new home and Liona's new job  
**Shawn Ritter**, in honor of David Gellman and Ron Lezell for being good uncles  
**Susan Horst**, in honor of Richard Inlander's birthday  
**Merry Luskin**, in honor of Ann Biderman's new home  
**Louise Schneider**, in honor of Bert Slapp  
**Joyce Amburgey and Cindy Schorr**, in memory of Leon and Eugene Childress, Harry Gale, Bob Grinslade, and Joe Ryan.  
**Cheryl Bryan**, in honor of Rabbi Eric Weiss  
**Ron Lezell**, in memory of Penny Dachinger

### High Holidays Fund

**Jonathan Funk**, for the High Holidays  
**Betty Kalis**, for the High Holidays

### Prayerbook Fund

**Lin Turner**, in honor of Elliot Gordon's birthday

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

**Cheryl Bryan**, in honor of Rabbi Kahn  
**Ellen Shapiro**, in memory of Milton H. Shapiro  
**Judith Klain**, for the naming of her son, Michael Klain-Chavez

### Torah Fund

**Cynthia Gair**, in memory of Mary-Helen Mantner, Washington, D.C.

## Classifieds

**FOR SALE:** FRENCH mahogany mini-armoire (approximately 7'x2'x2') with full-length mirror on front door. \$375. Call 821-0332.

## October Va'ad Report

The October meeting began with the appointment of Steve Elman to serve as Va'ad member for the remainder of the term of Jose Luis Moscovich, who resigned effective October 1. Richard Inlander reported on behalf of the Advance Follow-Up Committee, whose charge had been to consolidate the notes from the 1990 Advance and make recommendations as to how items should be followed up on, by whom, and in what time frame. Everyone was impressed by the well-organized handout produced by the committee, and the thoughtful, hard work it represented. This is the first time in 10 years that the annual Leadership Advance has had a formal follow-up process and it seems to be something we will want to continue, given how many good ideas are generated each year at the Advance. Merry Luskin, our president, will be contacting committee chairs and others, and follow-up in the various areas will take place under the auspices of the Va'ad.

Since July, time has been devoted at each Va'ad meeting to leadership development. Allan Gold led a discussion of how well this has worked and what other types of leadership training we feel we need. Items mentioned included training in how to organize and chair meetings and how to be an effective participant.

For the D'var Torah, Rabbi Kahn spoke about the two Creation stories in that week's Torah portion. A new Midrash explains that there are two versions because Creation did not work the first time so it took place a second time. He spoke about the importance of recognizing that sometimes things just don't work out, however honorable the goal, and about the need to just pick up the pieces and start all over again. We need to have room for our own feelings and failures as we continue with our sacred work of creation.

Rabbi Kahn recently attended a conference on "Conflict Management in the Local Congregation," which focused on how people make decisions in different ways and how to de-escalate the differences. He will turn over some of the information from the conference to Allan Gold, who may be able to incorporate it into the ongoing leadership development work.

Merry Luskin discussed the recent

death of Penny Dachinger, a former co-leader of the congregation, and the Va'ad approved a motion to make a donation in her honor to Hospice House in Hollywood, Fla. The Va'ad also approved the four members of the Fine Arts Advisory Panel: Allan Gold, Claudia Bernard, Marion Trentman and Ellen Kugler. They will meet as an advisory panel to the Building Committee, currently chaired by Jeffrey Miller.

Shirley Liberman reported that Lehr's Greenhouse will no longer be able to accommodate our Seder and she has conducted an extensive search for alternate locations. The best solution in terms of affordable cost, nicest facilities, free parking and access to public transportation is the Fort Mason Officers' Club located in the Golden Gate National Recreation Area. Some Va'ad members expressed their discomfort with using a military facility but, after some discussion, the Va'ad agreed to hold the Seder there in 1991. However, a motion was passed to include in our cover letter or contract that we are a synagogue with special outreach to the lesbian and gay community.

Jeffrey Miller presented a list of items on the agenda of the Building Committee and discussed priorities. Most of the local contractors are busy with large jobs and Jeffrey has had a hard time finding someone who will come out and do relatively small jobs. He was given referrals by Va'ad members and will

follow up on those. He also requested help in finding additional Building Committee members as he is currently a committee of only one. He expressed some concerns about having the resources to act on one of the recommendations of the Advance Follow-Up Committee, which is to commission an architectural study of the building to determine what modifications can be made.

Claudia Bernard reported on the High Holidays. The ticket system worked very well and the crowds were smaller than last year. Mark Pressler thanked Lin Turner for all of his help in the office during the preparations for the High Holidays. The Va'ad expressed their thanks and appreciation to Claudia, Scott Mezistrano, Jeff Rubin, Shirley Liberman and Betty Kalis for their wonderful hard work in making all of this happen. Brett Trueman gave the monthly financial report and answered questions about the budget. Among the items discussed were the level of contributions compared to last year and "actual" versus "projected" revenues in various areas. The meeting was then adjourned at 9:30 pm with the singing of Oseh Shalom.

—Gail Friedlander, Recorder

### Condolences

To Rosalinda Del Moral on the loss of her uncle, Carlos Santiago

### Want To Earn Money in Your Spare Time?

#### Join an investment group!

- *Need investment ideas for recessionary times?*
- *Afraid of the stock market?*
- *Wondering about socially responsible investing?*
- *Is it really possible to make lucrative investments without being a professional?*

#### Let's find out together!

Come to a meeting Tuesday, November 13, 7:30pm at CSZ

For more information, call Nancy at 282-5283

## Gay/Lesbian Israel

The Society for the Protection of Personal Rights (SPPR or *Agudah*, in Hebrew) functions as an umbrella organization for nine current and three forming projects. These projects are:

- *Nativ Nossaf (Another Way)*, a bi-monthly Hebrew journal reporting on gay and lesbian activities throughout the world.

- *English Update*, a bi-monthly English newsletter reporting on the activities of the SPPR (copies CSZ has received are in our library).

- White Line, an information and counseling hotline.

- Hagana, a center that documents and handles cases of anti-gay discrimination and hate crimes.

- HOD, a religious gay men's group.

- Israel Hospitality, a service that provides reasonably priced home accommodations for lesbians and gays visiting Israel.

- Otzma, the political branch of the SPPR, which works for full equality of gays and lesbians. During last June's Israeli gay pride week, six members of the Knesset, representing five political parties, agreed to sponsor an Otzma-drafted bill that would bar sexual orientation discrimination in the workplace.

- Haifa Social Group, a social organization for lesbians and gays from Haifa and other northern parts of Israel.

- Lecture Service, which lectures to the general public and to professional groups about homosexuality in general, and gay and lesbian life in Israel specifically.

- Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays held its first meeting over the summer.

- The Lesbian Feminist Progressive Jewish Group formed in late August, with the goal of integrating the values of Progressive Judaism with a lesbian-feminist-egalitarian identity. They plan to meet every three to four weeks.

- The Gay and Lesbian Counseling Group is also in formation.

If you'd like to support the SPPR, \$35 per year makes you a Friend and a one-time \$200 donation or more makes you a Permanent Friend. For information or to send a donation, write: SPPR, P.O. Box 16151, Tel Aviv 61161, Israel. Or you can call the SPPR at 03-293681.

## Synagogue Information

**Rabbi Yoel Kahn**

### Officers:

*President*, Merry Luskin  
*Vice President*, Allan Gold  
*Treasurer*, Brett Trueman  
*Recorder*, Gail Friedlander

### Va'ad (Board) Members:

Claudia Bernard  
 Ann Biderman  
 Tiela Chalmers  
 Steve Elman  
 Lisa Katz  
 Jeffrey Miller  
 Alita Rosenfeld  
 Judy Schwartz  
 Lin Turner

### Committee Chairs:

*Bikkur Cholim*, Lane Schickler  
*Brotherhood*, Eric Keitel  
*Building*, Jeffrey Miller  
*Bylaws*, Edward Pollack  
*Cemetery*, Richard Inlander  
*Children's Chavurah*, Aaron Cooper  
*Cookbook Project*, Robin Leonard  
*Education*, Elliot Gordon  
*Finance*, Ben Schalit  
*Gift Shop*, Bill Ashley-Dobbin  
*Israel Chavurah*, Ron Lezell  
*Long-Range Planning*, Tiela Chalmers & Daniel Chesir  
*Membership*, Nancy-Carol Adler  
*Newsletter*, Howard Blechman  
*Oneg*, Lin Turner  
*Past Presidents Council*, Don Albert  
*Personnel*, Irene Ogus  
*Public Relations*, Sharyn Saslafsky  
*Rabbi Liaison*, Aaron Cooper  
*Religious School*, Ellen Gierson & Peter Vishniac  
*Ritual*, Larry Wexler

*Social Action*, Jonathan Mesinger & Lisa Katz

*Social Program*, Marc Mencher  
*Women's Chavurah*, Ann Biderman

### Office Personnel:

*Manager*, Mark Pressler  
*Secretary*, Josephine Crimmins

**Office Hours:** Mon. 8-5; Tues. 8-4:30; Wed., Thu. 8-2:30; Fri. 8-3. Phones will be answered Mon.-Fri. 10-2.

**Emergency Number:** In an emergency, the Congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 420-9718.

**Services** are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the second and last Saturday of each month at 10:30 am—check calendar for each month.

**Congregation Sha'ar Zahav** (Congregation of the Golden Gate) is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th & Market streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Stanyan to 18th & Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

**Member** Union of American Hebrew Congregations (Richard Inlander, Mike Rankin, Liaisons) and World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations (Eric Keitel, Liaison).

# LET'S GET GRAPHIC

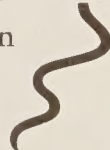
Graphics add impact to every kind of document, whether it's your annual report or a flyer for your annual picnic. Mouse Type's high-quality graphics can add impact to every page we produce.

Call us when you need more than just great type.

**558-8998**

DESKTOP PUBLISHING • WORD PROCESSING • FULL-SERVICE TYPOGRAPHY

MOUSE  
TYPE  
INC.™



## NOVEMBER

## חֲשׂוֹן כִּסְלִי

<b>1 Thursday</b> <b>13 Heshvan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children's Education Committee</li> <li>6:30pm, Long-Range Planning Meeting</li> </ul>	<b>10 Saturday</b> <b>22 Heshvan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am, Kadimah</li> <li>10:30am, Morning Services</li> </ul>	<b>17 Saturday</b> <b>29 Heshvan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am, Kadimah</li> </ul>	<b>25 Sunday</b> <b>8 Kislev</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10:30am, Kaiser Brunch, Kaiser Hospital, San Francisco</li> </ul>
<b>2 Friday</b> <b>14 Heshvan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30-8:05pm, Gift shop open</li> <li>8:15pm, Services, Frank Masson and Daniel Chesir</li> </ul>	<b>11 Sunday</b> <b>23 Heshvan</b>	<b>18 Sunday</b> <b>1 Kislev</b>	<b>26 Monday</b> <b>9 Kislev</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:15pm, Library open</li> <li>7-10pm, Gift shop open</li> </ul>
<b>3 Saturday</b> <b>15 Heshvan</b>	<b>12 Monday</b> <b>24 Heshvan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:15pm, Library open</li> <li>6:30pm, Va'ad meeting</li> <li>7:30-10pm, Gift shop open</li> </ul>	<b>19 Monday</b> <b>2 Kislev</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:15pm, Library open</li> </ul>	<b>27 Tuesday</b> <b>10 Kislev</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30pm, Feminism and Judaism class</li> </ul>
<b>4 Sunday</b> <b>16 Heshvan</b>	<b>13 Tuesday</b> <b>25 Heshvan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30pm, Feminism and Judaism class</li> <li>7:30pm, Investment group</li> </ul>	<b>20 Tuesday</b> <b>3 Kislev</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30pm, Feminism and Judaism class</li> <li>7:30pm, Newsletter proofing and layout, 1711 Castro</li> </ul>	<b>28 Wednesday</b> <b>11 Kislev</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:15pm, Prayerbook Hebrew class</li> <li>8:30pm, Introduction to Judaism class</li> </ul>
<b>5 Monday</b> <b>17 Heshvan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:15pm, Library open</li> </ul>	<b>14 Wednesday</b> <b>26 Heshvan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:15pm, Prayerbook Hebrew class</li> <li>7:30pm, Newsletter editing, 1711 Castro</li> <li>8:30pm, Introduction to Judaism class</li> </ul>	<b>21 Wednesday</b> <b>4 Kislev</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:15pm, Prayerbook Hebrew class</li> <li>8:30pm, Introduction to Judaism class</li> </ul>	<b>29 Thursday</b> <b>12 Kislev</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30pm, Ritual Committee</li> <li>7:30pm, Social Action Committee</li> </ul>
<b>6 Tuesday</b> <b>18 Heshvan</b>	<b>15 Thursday</b> <b>27 Heshvan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30pm, Bikkur Cholim</li> </ul>	<b>22 Thursday</b> <b>5 Kislev</b> <b>Thanksgiving Day</b>	
<b>7 Wednesday</b> <b>19 Heshvan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:15pm, Prayerbook Hebrew class</li> <li>8:30pm, Introduction to Judaism class</li> </ul>	<b>16 Friday</b> <b>28 Heshvan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30-8:05pm, Gift shop open</li> <li>8:15pm, Services, Rabbi Kahn, Jose Luis Moscovich and Kathy Simon</li> </ul>	<b>23 Friday</b> <b>6 Kislev</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30-8:05pm, Gift shop open</li> <li>8:15pm, Services, Nancy Snow and Nancy Carol Adler</li> </ul>	<b>30 Friday</b> <b>13 Kislev</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>6:30pm, Shabbat Dinner</li> <li>7:30-8:05pm, Gift shop open</li> <li>8:15pm, Services, Susan Gelmis and Rabbi Kahn</li> </ul>
<b>8 Thursday</b> <b>20 Heshvan</b>		<b>24 Saturday</b> <b>7 Kislev</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>9:30am, Kadimah</li> <li>10:30am, Morning Services, Dana Vinicoff</li> </ul>	<b>7 Friday, December 7</b> <b>20 Kislev</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8:15pm, Services, Larry Wexler and Scott Mezistrano</li> </ul>
<b>9 Friday</b> <b>21 Heshvan</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7:30-8:05pm, Gift shop open</li> <li>8:15pm, Services, Lina Zerbarini and Tiela Chalmers, sermon by Rabbi Kahn</li> </ul>			

*Note: To improve the calendar's clarity, we now highlight all religious services.*

## Office Notes

Well, the holidays are over and the office can take a small breather. However, the holidays were made a little easier with the help of the following people—Lin Turner, Eli Weinstein, and Steve Davis—for helping out with phone answering, envelope stuffing, and other assorted tasks. Even though the holidays are over, it still will make you feel good to volunteer in the office.

*Dr. Diane Sabin*

CHIROPRACTOR

3892 24th Street, San Francisco, CA 94114 415/826-8300